A BOMB *thrown amongst the Quakers in* NORWICH,

Which will Reach their Friends in BRISTOL, *and set* FIRE *on the Combustible Matter thorow their whole* CAMP *in* England *and* Wales.

Mr. Pitt,

I Have not only seen your Book against Mr. *Wright*, and considered the Weakness of it, (to say no worse) but have been told by some Quakers, that when I was last at *Norwich*, you sought me with design to dispute me in Defence of Quakerism, and if so (which I much question) this is to let you know, that I am now at the *George Inn* in *Norwich*; And also, that on Condition the Quakers will depute you under the hands of Six or more of them, promising to assent to, and stand by your Defence of their Principles laid down in their Books, as their Act and Deed, That I will then give you a Meeting; In order to which, let us meet this Evening, or on *Monday* night next, to appoint time & place, and adjust Preliminaries. The Charge I offer to prove upon them out of their Books wrote by *Fox*, *Whitehead*, *Penn*, *Burrough*, *Smith*, &c. their approved Authors; shall consist of these six particulars following, which if I make full proof of, I hope you will grant that their Doctrine tends to subvert Christianity.

Firſt, *By their contempt of the H. Scriptures, calling them dust, death, serpents meat, beastly ware, an Idol,* &c. *saying it is the highest Blasphemy to call them the Word of God.*

Secondly, *That they deny the ever Blessed Trinity, in a Blasphemous manner.*

Thirdly, *That they deny Jeſus to be Chriſt, the Son of God.*

Fourthly, *That they neglect, contemn, and deny the Sacred Ordinances of the Goſpel, namely, Baptiſm with Water, and the Supper with Bread and Wine.*

Fifthly, *That they undervalue the Death and Sufferings of our Saviour, by affirming their own Sufferings to be not only greater, but more unjuſt, than the Sufferings of Chriſt, his Holy Apoſtles, and Bleſſed Martyrs.*

Sixthly, *That they not only undervalue, villify and contemn the Holy Scriptures, as aboveſaid, but they over-value their own Sayings and Writings, as not only to be the Word of God, but alſo of greater Authority than the Bible, which they ſay can in no ſence be called the Word of God; which ſo to do (ſay they) is the higheſt Blaſphemy.*

This is the Charge I propoſe to prove, and if you get a Deputation, as aboveſaid, let us meet and ſettle Terms for a Conference; but if they think you not able, acquaint them, that I will give any one of them a Meeting Publickly; Firſt ſettling Terms, appointing time and place Mutually. *I am your Friend,*

Octob. 17. 1702. Francis Bugg.

POSTSCRIPT.

AND now to *John Fiddiman, Richard Aſhby,* &c. if you refuſe to depute Mr. *Pitts* to be your Apologiſt, to defend your Faith and Principles, I then offer to meet either of you, or any other of your People, upon Terms we ſhall mutually agree upon, and to prove the within-written Charge upon you, in the Six Particulars; And thereby ſhew, That when you pretend in your Publick Meetings to own Chriſt Crucified, and Faith in him, you do not mean what you ſpeak, as Mr. *Wright* has well obſerved;

ſerved; For your whole Buſineſs is to deceive, and my Buſineſs in this Affair is to undeceive the deceived. And I know of no better way to effect this then to diſcover the Deceivers, according to the Doctrine of your Friend *Tho. Ellwood.*

I am your Friend

*Oct.*17.1702. Francis Bugg.

I ſent a Copy of this to Mr. Pitts, *and another Copy to* John Fiddiman.

Here followeth a Brief Reply to Mr. Pitt's *Anſwer to the foreſaid Letter.*

Mr. Pitt, Octob. the 20th. 1702.

I Received yours of the 19th Inſtant, and perceive you are but a Novice in the Principles of Quakeriſm; except in that of Scurrility, which perhaps your intereſt Leads you to; you tell us, that what you have aſſerted in their Vindication, is from the words of their approved Authors, which is little to the purpoſe; for if that were ſufficient, you may find ſome Flaſhes here and there which look Orthodox, in the Works of *Muggleton*, or any other Books of the ancient Hereticks; my Charge ſeems to you (I perceive) ſevere; but if you ſearch their Books, ſaid to be given forth from the Mouth of the Lord, and by the Movings of the Eternal Spirit of God, which contain their Principles, if they have any, you will find my Charge true upon them; but if they think I wrong them, let them appear, or depute you for their Champion; but their declining ſo to do, may ſatisfy Impartial Men, that they are ſelf-condemned, and ſenſible of the Truth of the Charge; if they be not, it would be their Intereſt to appear and acquit themſelves; this they know they can't do, and therefore dare not appear. I ſhall not enlarge herein, at preſent, but hereafter you

may hear more, when I can learn to what People you belong; for if you be not a Deist, or Socinian, I still marvel you should Apologize for Quakerism, which is the Sink of all Heresies; and as the Protestant Dissenters have well said, are thus chargeable, viz. *They render the Holy Scriptures to be of no more Authority than Æsop's Fables; that the Blood of Christ is no better than the Blood of another Saint; that they are no other than the Spawn of the Ranters; that their owning Jesus Christ is indeed no other than a Mistical Romance; that the Tendency of all their reasoning about Instituted Religion, is to Debauch Mankind; that their Principles improved are destructive to all Human Society; that they are cheats, lyars, & impostors, and implacable Enemies to the Christian Religion, as vile Impostors as ever were,* &c. See their Friend *Tho. Ellwood's* Book, Intituled, *Forgery no Christianity*, &c. *p.* 37. by him Collected out of their Books, by him & others, with much more of the same nature; see my Book *VOX POPULI*, &c. where many of the like Charges are given by the Presbyterians, Independents, & Anabaptists; and if you be one of them, first condemn your Brethren, and deny their Works, and consequently them too; and then tell me what you are, for I profess I cannot well tell, unless some Runagado, or Scabby Goat, setting your self on the left hand. I am your Friend, tho' I tell you the Truth.

Francis Bugg.

A CAUTIONARY APPENDIX.

HAving known by Self-Experience, as well as by what mine Eyes have seen touching the Danger of Hearing the Quakers Speakers, who gild over their poisonous Doctrine, by many seeming Fair and Orthodox Pretences. I cannot but advise all to beware of their Leaven, knowing

knowing that what they declare touching the Faith of Christ Crucified, they mean not a word of what they say, & my advice shall be bottomed on Two Heads.

First, *From Scripture Precept.*

Secondly, *From Reason and Experience.*

And First *From Scripture*, it is written in St. *Mark*'s Gospel, *ch.* 4. *v.* 24. *Take heed* (said our Saviour) *what you hear*; this of it self ought to be not only a caution, but a warning for us to be aware both what, and who we hear; especially when he has foretold us, as in St. *Matthew* 24. saying, v. 11. *Many false Prophets shall arise, and deceive many*, again, v. 24. *There shall arise false Christs and false Prophets, shewing great Signs and Wonders, insomuch that (if it were possible) they shall deceive the very Elect.* And that the Quakers are these very false Christs, and false Prophets, foretold of by our Saviour, is plain both from their Doctrine and Practice, and that in express words; for they tell us, that the Name *Jesus* and *Christ* belong to every Member, as well as to the Head, meaning as well to every *believing Quaker*, as to *Christ* the Head; and for a proof of this and other places in their Books, see my *Sleeford Conference, &c. p.* 119. *to* 156. where there is nigh forty instances of the like Nature, all which may serve for a caution *to take heed what we hear.*

Secondly, *From Reason and Experience.*

First, Our Members of the Church of *England* have all the reason in the World, to believe that our Religion is true, & founded upon the Divine Authority of the *H. Scriptures*, of which 'tis needless for me to enlarge, since we have so many Excellent Books, wrote by our Divines, Answering all Objections; as well as by Law established; yet the Quakers tell us in *Burrough's Epistle to Fox's Great Mystery*, That they deny

our

our whole Religion, And that our *Service-book*, bottomed on the Divine Authority of the Sacred Word of God, and eſtabliſhed by Act of Parliament is Idolatrous, becauſe we pray ſaying, *O Son of David have mercy upon us.* Nay, they will not joyn with us in any one *Act of Devotion*; for let a Quaker and a Chriſtian happen to Dine together; & if the Chriſtian, as in Duty bound, ſhall but ſay, *Good Lord, Pardon all our ſins, and Sanctify theſe thy good Creatures to our uſe, and us to thy ſelf and Service, and all for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake*: The Quaker will ſit with his Hat on in Teſtimony againſt this Known and Common Duty: and the Reaſon is Twofold, 1ſt, in that *we beg for pardon of our ſins*; 2ly, and *that for Jeſus Chriſts ſake*; for they ſay, we therein acknowledge our ſelves Sinners, which they cannot do; 2ly, We Pray, and Petition, & give Thanks, in the Name, and for the ſake of a Dead God, as in their Prophet *Burrough*'s Works, *p* 101, 518. why then ſhall we hear theſe Infidels?

Secondly, They tell us all that Preach Chriſt without, and bid People believe in him as he is in Heaven above, are falſe Miniſters, Witches, Devils, Soddomites, Blood-hounds, Anti-chriſts, *&c.* and thereupon will not for a World come and hear one of them; Why then ſhould we countenance their Hereſy, ſo far as to go and hear them.

Thirdly, They not only Teſtify, with Hearts full of Indignation againſt our Miniſters, for thus Preaching, But they Teſtify againſt, villify and contemn the written word of God, as Death, Duſt, Serpents Meat, Beaſtly Ware, an Idol, *&c.* ſaying, it is the Higheſt Blaſphemy to call them the Word of God; Why then ſhould we go to hear ſuch implacable Enemies to the Chriſtian Religion, taught us by our Bleſſed Saviour, his

Holy

Holy Prophets and Apoſtles, & practiſed by all Chriſtian Churches; & now, thanks be to God, Eſtabliſhed by Law.

Fourthly, And ſince the Quaker-Prophets have plainly declared in Print, their Averſion to give Liberty of Conſcience to the Epiſcopal Church; as in the Works of *R. Huberthorn*, *p.* 228. and *Edw. Burrough's Works*, *p.* 615. Why ſhould we ſo far Countenance them, as to hear their *vain Bablings*.

Fifthly, Nay, They Account us abominadle Idolaters, Heathens, and what not, becauſe we call the Scriptures the Word of God, the Sacraments of Baptiſm and the Lord's Supper, the Inſtitutions of Chriſt; that they firſt Separate from us, will not join in any act of Devotion with us; nay, they will neither Marry nor Bury with us; & for this they give us the ſame Arguments St. *Paul* gave to the Believing Gentiles at *Corinth*, 2 *Cor.* 6. 17. See their Books *Fruits of Retirement* &c. Praface, to which I have reply'd in my Sheet, *The Quakers Charm Diſcovered*, &c. Why then ſhall we hear ſuch as compare us to the Gentile Idolaters, whom S. *Paul* affirmed Sacrificed to Devils, & not to God; & their Cup & Table was the Cup & Table of Devils; and he would not that the Believing Gentiles ſhould have Fellowſhip with the Cup of Devils and Table of Devils; and how frequent is it with the Quakers to charge our Communion Table the Table of Devils, and the Cup we receive the Wine in the Cup of Devils; how then can we, if we have but a Spark of Zeal for our Holy Religon (which our Martyr'd Anceſtors ſuffer'd in the Flames for) go & hear ſuch *Blaſphemous Wretches*.

Sixthly, And for the like Reaſons they account all our Chriſtian Kings Parliaments Judges, Juſtices *&c.* Apoſtates, Spiritual *Ægyptians*, &c. And if they command a Faſt to be kept, they'll take no notice of it, make an Act of Aſſociation, they'll not Subſcribe it, an Act of Abjuration, they'll not join with us in it, nor bear Arms for the Defence of our Religion, Laws & Liberties, no! their Conſciences will not ſuffer them; whilſt their pretence to Conſcience is every day more & more diſcover'd to be made only their Stalking Horſe, for all their Holy Cheats; their Irreligion, & downright Blaſphemy; why then ſhould we hear ſuch Seditious Ringleaders.

Laſtly, I cannot enlarge, but let them appear, purſuant to my Challenge & all theſe things, & more, I offer to prove upon them; yea, & much more, which I reſerve to the next.

Yarmouth, Oct. 21. 1702. Francis Bugg.

POSTSCRIPT

POSTSCRIPT to the Lay-Quakers.

Friends,

IF any of your Teachers, (or Mr. *Pitts*, or any other Deist or Socinian) shall write any thing by way of Apology for Quakerism, let this be the Touchstone to try their sincerity; & serve as an Alarum sounded in the ears of *W. Penn*, *G. Whitehead*, & the rest of your Teachers to meet me in June next, in *Bristol*, *Nottingham*, or *Oxford*, from any parts in *England* or *Wales*; and upon six weeks notice, I will (God permitting me Length of days and Health of Body) meet them, and let them Know it highly concerns them to defend themselves from the Guilt of my charge in the 6 particulars foregoing, or to condemn their Books which contain such Horrid Doctrine, since they tell us in Print saying, *Our Principles are now no other then what they were when we were first a People, and that we doubt not but defend our ancient Friends and their Writings, being not conscious to our selves of deviating in any one point of Doctrine from what we first held*, &c. See their Primitive Christianity revived, p. 6. the Post-man, N° 568. or else tell them from me, that their Silence will be taken *pro confesso*; and that their remaining mute under such a heavy charge, will render them Self-condemn'd in the eyes of all intelligent Persons.

And when this is done, we shall proceed to examine their pretence to the gift of Tongues, of Prophecy, of working Miracles, and of discerning of Spirits, so, as to know who are Saints, who are Devils, and who are Apostates, without speaking ever a word as their great Apostle and High-priest of their Profession *FOX* pretended to, as may be seen in his Book (*i.e.*) *The Great Mystery*, &c

Lastly, My advice to you is, that you rouse up *Whitehead*, *Penn*, &c. to come forth and defend not only your Principles, but tell them it is a shame to their whole Body, that it should be said in Ages to come, that when your great Prophet *Fox* dyed under the Odious Charge of being a Cheat and an Impostor, that not one of his Disciples would Appear to defend him or his Doctrine in publick *viva voce*. And if none will appear, then you may conclude them Self-condemned, and guilty of the fore-mentioned Charge drawn up against them out of their Books, by your Friend

Mildenhall, *Nov.* 12. 1702. *Francis Bugg.*

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